

Kentucky Agri-News



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National Agricultural Statistics Service

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Featuring: ► Agricultural Prices ► Hogs & Pigs ► Cattle on Feed ► Cold Storage
► Livestock Slaughter ► Milk Production ► Egg Production

KENTUCKY CROP AND LIVESTOCK PRICES CONTINUE MIXED

Crop prices received by Kentucky farmers were mixed with corn and soybeans up in price while winter wheat was down. Cattle prices were steady to up while barrows and gilts were up and sows were down in price.

Steers and heifers 500 lbs. and over averaged \$103.00 per cwt. (hundred weight) for mid-December. The price was unchanged from the November price while up \$8.00 from December 2004. Beef cow price at mid-month was \$45.00 per cwt., up \$1.00 from November while down \$3.00 from December a year earlier. Calves less than 500 lbs. averaged \$121.00 per cwt. This was up \$3.00 from November and up \$11.00 from December 2004. This was the highest calf price in three months.

Hog prices for December moved in opposite directions with barrows and gilts higher in price and sows lower. Barrows and gilts at mid-December averaged \$44.00 per cwt., up \$1.00 from November while down \$8.00 from December 2004. Sow prices at \$36.00 per cwt. were down \$4.00 from November and down \$8.00 from December last year. This was the lowest sow price since February 2004.

Sheep and lamb prices for November were down from the previous month. The sheep price at \$45.00 per cwt. was down \$7.00 from the October price. The lamb price was \$102.00 per cwt., down \$3.00 from October.

Price of all milk for mid-December was \$15.20 per cwt. This was down \$1.00 from the November price and down \$1.80 from December 2004. This would be the lowest milk price in 22 months. The final monthly milk price will vary from the projected mid-month milk price due to price changes announced by the Milk Marketing Orders, actual milk fat content and quantity sold by milk class.

Grain prices continue to be mixed with corn and soybeans up in price and winter wheat lower. Corn price at mid-December was \$2.05 per bushel. This was up six cents from the November price while

seven cents less than the December 2004 price. This would be the highest price in three months. The soybean mid-December price was \$5.90 per bushel, up 15 cents from November and up 29 cents from December a year ago. This would be the highest soybean price in four months. Winter wheat price for mid-December was \$3.10 per bushel, down 33 cents from the final November price while up 21 cents from December 2004.

The Preliminary U.S. All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December at 114, based on 1990-92=100, increased 1 point (0.9 percent) from November. The Crop Index was up 4 points (3.8 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 2 points (1.7 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for tomatoes, corn, strawberries, and lettuce. Lower prices were received for oranges, broilers, dairy, and grapes. The overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of dairy, wheat, oranges, and broilers offset decreased marketings of cattle, soybeans, grapes, and corn. The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 3 points (2.7 percent) from December 2004.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY		US	
		DEC 2004	NOV 2005	DEC 2005	DEC 2005
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn b/ c/	Bu.	2.12	1.99	2.05	1.88
Soybeans b/	Bu.	5.61	5.75	5.90	5.71
Winter Wheat b/	Bu.	2.89	3.43	3.10	3.30
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	100.00	120.00	120.00	97.70
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	58.00	70.00	70.00	78.00
All Hogs	Cwt.	51.70	42.90	43.70	45.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	52.00	43.00	44.00	45.80
Sows	Cwt.	44.00	40.00	36.00	38.20
All Beef Cattle d/	Cwt.	83.70	88.80	89.10	92.70
Steers & Heifers e/	Cwt.	95.00	103.00	103.00	99.10
Cows	Cwt.	48.00	44.00	45.00	46.60
Calves f/	Cwt.	110.00	118.00	121.00	135.00
Sheep	Cwt.	--	45.00	--	--
Lambs	Cwt.	--	102.00	--	--
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	17.00	16.20	15.20	14.70
Hog-Corn Ratios g/	Bu.	24.4	21.6	21.3	24.2

a/ Preliminary. b/ Includes contract sales paid during month. c/ Includes yellow and white corn. d/ "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. e/ 500 lbs. and over. f/ Under 500 lbs. g/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

DECEMBER 1 HOG & PIG INVENTORY

There were 370,000 hogs and pigs on Kentucky farms on December 1, 2005, up 6 percent from a year ago, but 3 percent below December 2003. Breeding inventory, at 40,000 head, was unchanged from last year but 11 percent below 2003. Market hog inventory, at 330,000 head, was 6 percent above December 1, 2004 but 1 percent below December 1, 2003. The 2005 Kentucky pig crop was 696,000 head, down 9 percent from the 2004 pig crop. Sows farrowing totaled 78,000 head, down 7,000 from 2004. Pigs per litter for 2005 averaged 8.92 pigs per litter. This was down .04 pigs from 2004.

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2005 was 61.2 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2004, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2005. Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was up 1 percent from last year and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.2 million head, was up slightly from last year but down 1 percent from last quarter. The September-November 2005 U.S. pig crop, at 26.1 million head, was up 1 percent from

2004 and up 2 percent from 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, unchanged from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.03 for the September-November 2005 period, compared to 8.96 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.88 million sows farrow during the December 2005-February 2006 quarter, up 1 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in both 2005 and 2004. Intended farrowings for March-May 2006, at 2.89 million sows, are up slightly from 2005 and up 1 percent from 2004.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, up from 38 percent last year.

HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS
DECEMBER 1, 2004 - 2005, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

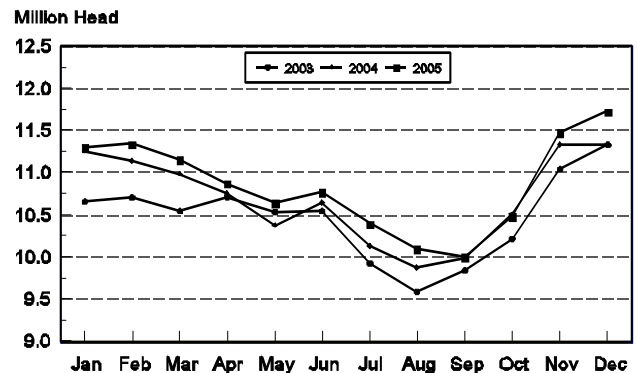
State	TOTAL		BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	1,000	% of	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Head	2004	Head	2004	Head	2004	(1,000 Head)							
AR	270	82	85	100	185	76	130	130	40	20	35	15	40	20
GA	270	98	43	102	227	97	98	97	55	51	43	40	37	39
IL	4,000	98	430	102	3,570	97	1,410	1,300	830	860	770	740	670	670
IN	3,200	100	310	107	2,890	99	1,010	1,010	750	730	600	560	550	590
IA	16,400	101	1,070	100	15,330	101	4,580	4,530	4,130	4,160	3,340	3,500	3,180	3,140
KS	1,780	104	160	103	1,620	104	460	570	330	320	340	310	425	420
KY	370	106	40	100	330	106	100	105	80	85	70	75	60	65
MI	950	100	100	91	850	101	330	315	195	205	160	170	155	160
MN	6,600	102	590	98	6,010	102	2,250	2,320	1,420	1,460	1,250	1,200	980	1,030
MO	2,750	95	345	101	2,405	94	1,200	1,155	530	480	480	450	350	320
NE	2,850	100	350	99	2,500	100	970	980	650	660	470	470	405	390
NC	9,800	99	1,010	99	8,790	99	3,520	3,450	2,150	2,130	1,700	1,720	1,510	1,490
OH	1,550	107	165	106	1,385	107	535	540	310	340	270	295	180	210
OK	2,370	99	360	100	2,010	99	970	920	340	330	230	240	490	520
PA	1,090	101	100	87	990	103	280	310	275	280	215	215	195	185
SD	1,480	110	165	118	1,315	110	410	440	300	335	260	290	230	250
WI	430	100	55	110	375	99	135	150	90	85	80	75	75	65
U.S.	61,197	100	6,011	101	55,186	100	19,980	19,955	13,439	13,552	11,186	11,266	10,401	10,414

U. S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.7 million head on December 1, 2005. The inventory was 3 percent above December 1, 2004 and 3 percent above December 1, 2003.

Placements in feedlots during November totaled 2.05 million, 17 percent above 2004 and 6 percent above 2003. Net placements were 1.95 million. During November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 660,000, 600-699 pounds were 650,000, 700-799 pounds were 420,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 315,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during November totaled 1.70 million, 4 percent above 2004 and 11 percent above 2003. **Other disappearance** totaled 91,000 during November, 16 percent below 2004 and 6 percent below 2003.

United States Cattle on Feed
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots



COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 2005 were greater than year earlier levels for chicken, frozen vegetables and eggs.

All U S. Warehouse Stocks				Nov 05 as % of	
Commodity	Nov 30 2004	Oct 31 2005	Nov 30 2005	Nov 2004	Oct 2005
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	769,185	804,192	870,961	113	108
Turkey	294,868	417,605	200,901	68	48
Ducks	582	2,714	2,886	496	106
Total Frozen Poultry	1,064,635	1,224,511	1,074,748	101	88
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	463,297	439,186	430,588	93	98
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	33,955	15,211	28,687	84	189
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	436,332	446,476	433,578	99	97
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	912,602	905,928	885,021	97	98

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.94 billion pounds in November, up 5 percent from the 3.77 billion pounds produced in November 2004. November 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2005 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.07 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.67 million head, up 5 percent from November 2004. The average live weight was up 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,284 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.84 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.13 million head, 2 percent above November 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 272 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.8 million pounds, was down 4 percent from November 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 224,500 head, 7 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up 5 pounds from November a year ago.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Type	Nov 2004	Oct 2005	Nov 2005	Nov. 05 as % of	
				Nov 2004	Oct 2005
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	1,941	2,081	2,071	107	100
Veal	13.8	12.6	12.4	90	99
Pork	1,799	1,816	1,843	102	101
Lamb & Mutton	16.5	15.8	15.8	96	100
Total U.S.	3,770	3,925	3,942	105	100
Total Kentucky	42.6	43.3	42.1	99	97

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. NOVEMBER 2004 & 2005 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.2	1.2	1,073	1,118	878	911
Hogs	208.7	203.6	56,123	55,445	269	272
Sheep & Lambs	0.9	1.1	103	145	120	136
United States						
Cattle	2,542.3	2,667.5	3,224,586	3,426,084	1,268	1,284
Hogs	8,972.8	9,132.3	2,421,568	2,483,610	270	272
Sheep & Lambs	242.0	224.5	32,914	31,556	136	141

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for November 2005 totaled 106 million pounds, down 5 percent from November 2004 and down 1 percent from October 2005. Average number of cows, at 102,000 head, was down 7,000 head from last year and down 1,000 from last month. Milk per cow, at 1,040 pounds, was up 10 pounds from a year earlier, but unchanged from October 2005.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during November totaled 13.0 billion pounds, up 4.6 percent from November

2004. October revised production, at 13.3 billion pounds, was up 4.0 percent from October 2004. The October revision represented a decrease of 17 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,590 pounds for November, 59 pounds above November 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.16 million head, 60,000 head more than November 2004, and 2,000 head more than October 2005.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR NOVEMBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2005 as % of 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,741	1,770	1,700	1,725	2,960	3,053	103
IL	106	104	1,450	1,480	154	154	100
IN	154	157	1,540	1,650	237	259	109
KY	109	102	1,030	1,040	112	106	95
MO	120	114	1,215	1,230	146	140	96
OH	266	270	1,390	1,400	370	378	102
VA	104	105	1,340	1,370	139	144	104
WI	1,237	1,238	1,415	1,485	1,750	1,838	105
23-State							
Total	8,102	8,162	1,531	1,590	12,404	12,975	105

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Nov 2004	Nov 2005	'05 as % of '04
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,482	7,538	101
Average Layers (000)	344,797	346,596	101
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,170	2,175	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	35,612	34,704	97
Chicks Hatched (000)	38,758	32,752	85
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Dec 1 (000)	645,112	657,579	102
Chicks Hatched (000)	730,353	747,335	102

Internet Access: Data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>